

# OKINAWA MARINE

OCTOBER 8, 2010

WWW.OKINAWA.USMC.MIL

## Exercise keeps 31st MEU ready Marines practice disaster relief operations

Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP COURTNEY — A simulated disaster honed 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit Marines' humanitarian assistance and disaster relief skills during a biannual certification exercise that ran from Sept. 26 through Monday.

The MEU forces were assisted in their training by Marines from III MEF's Special Operations Training Group, Department of State employees from six countries, including Japan, representatives from the United States Agency for International Development and the training education command group here.

SEE CERTEX PG 5



Marines from 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force, carry supplies to a hangar on Camp Courtney during the unit's biannual certification exercise Sept. 29. The purpose of the exercise was to ensure the MEU was trained and certified in core competencies. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland

### CFC-O officially begins



Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri, commanding general of Marine Corps Base Camp Butler and deputy commander of Marine Corps Bases Japan, signs a Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas pledge card on Camp Foster Monday. The CFC-O gives federal employees the opportunity to donate to the charity of their choice through a fundraising program that runs Monday through Dec. 3. Photo by Cpl. Kelly R. Stevens

## Flu immunizations available to beneficiaries on Okinawa

USNH Public Affairs

CAMP LESTER — The annual flu vaccine program is underway for military personnel throughout Okinawa.

Military public health officials have announced that beginning today, initial quantities of this year's seasonal flu vaccine will be available to all beneficiaries on Okinawa.

Flu shots will be given at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Lester, Family Medicine Clinics on Camps Courtney and Kinser, and at the 18th Medical Group Immunizations Clinic on Kadena Air Base.

Eligible beneficiaries include Department of Defense family members, retirees, Status of Forces Agreement sponsored civilians and their families, as well as anyone eligible for care at military health facilities in Okinawa. This vaccination is free for all of the above noted patients, including pay patients.

The hospital's immunizations clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 4 p.m.

Flu shot hours for Bush and Kinser Clinics are Monday through Friday from 8 – 11 a.m. and 1 – 4 p.m.

SEE VACCINE PG 5

IN THIS  
ISSUE

### EXPLORE OKINAWA

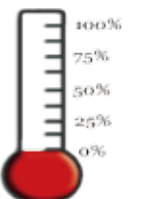
Looking for something new and different to do this weekend?

PG. 10



### MARINE CORPS FORCES JAPAN COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN '10

- The goal is 100 percent unit member contact.
- Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas 2010 underway.





## Columbus Day holiday message

**A**s we pause to celebrate Christopher Columbus' voyage across the Atlantic in 1492, it is important to think about the bravery displayed by him and his crew during their mission to push further than anyone from his native country had dared to go.

The same expeditionary mission and austere conditions that challenged Columbus, also challenge our Marine Corps. Never forget that the Marine Corps will always maintain its expeditionary culture. Today we have forces serving in Afghanistan, off the coast of Africa and countless other locations around the world.

While assigned to Marine Corps Bases Japan, III Marine Expeditionary Force, the only forward-deployed Marine Expeditionary Force and support forces, many of you will have the opportunity to serve at exercises and operations throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Those experiences will only deepen your personal expeditionary ethos.

It can be challenging at times, but just like Columbus and his crew, maintaining the expeditionary mindset will help you be successful in your service to your country. I also ask you to be especially careful when on liberty in Japan. Enjoy your time off, but remain aware of your surroundings. Take care of each other, keep safety in mind and above all, do not drink and drive.

*Semper Fidelis.*

Lt. Gen. Terry G. Robling



## This Week in History

U.S. MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

**Oct. 8, 1899** - A force of 375 Marines under command of future Commandant George F. Elliott, attacked and captured the insurgent town of Novaleta, Luzon, Philippine Islands, and linked up with U.S. Army troops during a three year conflict with the Philippines following the Spanish-American War.

**Oct. 9, 1917** - The 8th Marines were activated at Quantico, Va. Although the regiment would not see combat in Europe during World War I, the officers and enlisted men of 8th Marines participated in operations against dissidents in Haiti for more than five years during the 1920s. During World War II, the regiment was assigned to the 2nd Marine Division and participated in combat operations on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian and Okinawa, and earned three Presidential Unit Citations.

**Oct. 10, 1990** - The first unit-sized activation of reservists came when Marines from Combat Service Support Detachment 40 reported to Marine Corps Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. The mission of the unit was to maintain and refurbish equipment left behind by I Marine Expeditionary Force as it deployed to Saudi Arabia to join up with its pre-positioned equipment aboard Maritime Prepositioning Ship Squadron 3.

**Oct. 11, 1951** - A Marine battalion was flown by transport helicopters to a frontline combat position for the first time, when Marine Helicopter Transport Squadron 161 lifted 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, and its equipment, during Operation Bumblebee, northeast of Yanggu, Korea during the Korean Conflict.

**Oct. 12, 1944** - The assault phase of the Peleliu operation was declared over in World War II.

**Oct. 13, 2003** - The Marines of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) arrived in southern Iraq, setting up on the Al-Faw peninsula. Under the British-led Multi-National Division (Southeast), the 13th MEU (SOC) was tasked with disrupting illegal activities such as oil smuggling as well as providing humanitarian assistance.

**Oct. 14, 2004** - Marines launched air and ground attacks against an insurgent stronghold in Fallujah, Iraq, after peace talks were suspended. Two Marine battalions from the I Marine Expeditionary Force engaged in the fighting with the goal of disrupting insurgent forces. The peace talks fizzled over the demand that the insurgent mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and other foreign fighters be handed over to the authorities.



**Marines are required to wear seat belts while riding in taxis.**



The Okinawa Marine is published by Marine Corps Community Services under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan.

The editorial content of this newspaper is edited and approved by the Consolidated Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler.

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**OKINAWA MARINE NEWSPAPER**

H&S Battalion MCB PAO

Unit 35002

FPO AP 96373-5002

**CENTRAL BUREAU**

Camp Foster

DSN 645-7422

**NORTHERN BUREAU**

Camp Hansen

DSN 623-4224



# Marine awarded for actions during OEF

**Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FUJI, Japan — Staff Sgt. Rodrigo B. AriasHernandez recently received the Bronze Star Award with Combat V for his actions during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan Aug. 19-20, 2009.

AriasHernandez, a battery gunnery sergeant for Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, was a company advisor with Embedded Training Team 2-8, Regional Corps Advisory Command-Central 3-7, 201st Corps, Afghan National Army, at the time.

On Aug. 19, 2009, the eve of the second Afghan national election, the 34-year-old, another team member and an Army National Guard soldier defended Vehicle Patrol Base Pashad.

The ANA commander had directed all but six of the patrol base's personnel to occupy mountain overwatch positions that morning to block enemy infiltration routes during the election.

At about 10 p.m., Operational Detachment Alpha Team 2213 arrived at the compound with intelligence on an imminent large-scale attack by an enemy force of about 200 Taliban and foreign fighters.

AriasHernandez assessed the base's vulnerabilities and gave a report to the team's leader, after which the team was made available to AriasHernandez.

"The detachment that I had was from the Special Forces, and the commander came up to me and asked me 'Where do you need me,'" he said. "I told him I needed guys here, here and here and start plugging in the grids in case we (were) overrun, but we didn't (get overrun)."

At 11:05 p.m., the enemy launched an attack with accurate mortar fire followed by an onslaught of rocket-propelled grenade rounds, small arms and medium machine gun fire.

One of the ETT members responded with a Browning M2 .50 caliber machine gun, AriasH-



**Staff Sgt. Rodrigo B. AriasHernandez, right, with Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, is presented the Bronze Star Award with Combat V for his actions while deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom by Maj. Gen. James B. Laster, the commanding general of 3rd MarDiv., in an awards ceremony during the Artillery Relocation Training Program exercise on the East Fuji range Sept. 15.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin

ernandez's team's only crew-served weapon. He tried to assist by spotting enemy positions using night vision goggles, but saw only a barrage of muzzle flashes from enemy weapons.

He quickly sent out a distress signal to a joint-Quick Response Force, composed of an Army platoon, ETT and ANA personnel.

Using the cover of darkness, enemy fight-

ers had approached unnoticed and dispersed in all directions surrounding the valley, the neighboring village, the school house and the compound, with some as close as 300 meters, making fire missions impossible.

"When the going was tough he probably thought that 'You know what, I might not come out of this,' but he reacted instinctively; he did the right thing," said Maj. Gen. James B. Laster, 3rd MarDiv. commanding general, of AriasHernandez.

The ANA platoon at the compound was considered a strong fighting force because of its training and combat experience.

AriasHernandez coordinated with the ANA platoon lieutenant and helped refocus the ANA positions to their respective fields of fire and the enemy's potential avenues of approach.

Using his personal M203 grenade launcher, he fired illumination rounds to backlight enemy positions for ANA soldiers.

After two hours of fierce fighting, enemy forces collected their dead and wounded and departed into the mountains.

A post-attack analysis estimated the enemy force at 80 to 100 fighters intended to overrun the compound to ensure the Taliban controlled Pashad village before the next day's election.

The citation attributes all friendly forces' survival to AriasHernandez's leadership, courage and military skill.

"The training that I received paid off," said AriasHernandez. "Some of these guys were depending on me and my actions, so failure was not on my mind."

AriasHernandez volunteered to remain at the patrol base through election day, sustaining six more rocket attacks that he quickly neutralized by directing 105mm mortar fire on enemy mountain positions.

According to the citation, his actions contributed to a 95 percent turnout rate at the polling centers in the Khas Kunar district the following day, leaving the enemy's plan to disrupt the national election in the region a failure.

## New software simplifies leave restoration process

**Cpl. Megan Angel**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — While Marines currently accrue no more than 75 leave days according to Marine Administrative Message 666/09, Special Leave Accrual is an entitlement in which Marines can accrue up to 120 days of earned leave when they are assigned to duty under specific conditions and approval is granted by battalion/squadron commanders.

Marines subject to hostile fire or an imminent danger area, a deployable ship or mobile unit, or other duty designated by the Secretary of Defense as qualifying duty for SLA are eligible for this entitlement.

SLA is important because it allows Marines, unable to take leave due to deployment, to keep the days they have earned for a reasonable amount of time to use at a later date.

The SLA restoration process was historically labor intensive and difficult to track. However, the release of a new software application through Marine Online partially automates the SLA implementation process.

Effective Oct. 1, Marine Online now generates a listing of Marines potentially eligible for leave restoration for battalion and squadron commanders.

If approved by the commander, Marine Corps Total Force System will automatically restore leave each successive fiscal year until either the approved restoration period expires, or the Marine's leave balance

drops below the authorized 75 days, whichever comes first according to MarAdmin 666/09. If the leave is denied, a flag will be generated in MCTFS that will prevent future restoration of the same leave, unless removed at the commander's request.

SLA is no different from the leave Marines have in their leave accounts and can be used in the same manner, according to Chief Warrant Officer Kevin L. Martin, the Quality Assurance Branch officer-in-charge, Installation Personnel Administration Center, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

"With this new process, it essentially puts this tool back into the hands of commanders," said Martin. "It has now been partially automated, and the requirement for a paper trail is no longer required as those eligible individuals will be automatically generated, and the commander can then approve the leave to be restored by the click of a button. MOL should be utilized to the fullest extent possible at the battalion/squadron level."

Martin stressed the fact the new changes only apply to lost deployed or combat leave. The 'other lost leave' category still must be routed and approved by the first general officer in the chain of command with general court-martial convening authority.

Policy and procedures for reporting SLA are outlined in Marine Corps Order 1050.3J, Regulations for Leave, Liberty, and Administrative Absence, and MarAdmin 666/09, Special Leave Accrual. Any further questions can be directed to your unit S-1.



**BRIEFS****POST OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS**

In observance of Columbus Day, all Marine Corps Post Offices will operate on holiday hours as follows:

Oct. 11 - Closed

Oct. 12 - Parcel pick up will be open from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., retail services will be open from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Normal hours will resume Oct. 13.

For more details, contact 637-0124.

**MMOA VISIT FOR OFFICERS**

Monitors from Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps will be here Oct. 13-14 to meet with officers concerning the assignment process and future postings. MMOA briefs will be conducted at 7:30 a.m. Oct. 13 at the Camp Foster Theater for ground officers and the Futenma Theater for air officers.

For more information, call 622-7724 or email, [thomas.sukalski@usmc.mil](mailto:thomas.sukalski@usmc.mil).

**WALK TO REMEMBER AT LESTER**

A Walk to Remember will be held to honor and show support to families who have been affected by loss of pregnancy or newborn death. The walk will take place Oct. 16 starting at the Camp Lester Chapel at 8 a.m. It is open to everyone.

Call 643-7482 or 643-7572, and 643-0228 for Japanese by Oct. 10 to participate.

**FRIGHT NIGHT HALLOWEEN EVENT**

Volunteers are needed to help in the 5th Annual Fright Night Halloween Event Oct. 29-30 on Camp Foster. Individuals or groups can sign up to be haunted house tour guides, haunted house room decorators and for "Trunk or Treat" to decorate vehicles or hand out candy.

Contact Camp Services at 645-7317 for more information.

**CAREER ENHANCEMENT COURSES**

Transition Assistance Management Program and the Family Member Employment Assistance Program offers Career Enhancement Courses for October as follows:

Resume Writing for Volunteers - Oct. 15 on Camp Courtney.

Turbo TAP - Oct. 22 on Camp Foster.

Electronic Networking - Oct. 22 on Camp Hansen.

Professional Writing and E-mail Etiquette - Oct. 28 on Camp Schwab.

All CECs are held from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Personal Services Centers. Call the TAMP/FMEAP office to register at 645-3151.

**DEFENSE REUTILIZATION AND MARKETING**

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office is offering reutilization of excess property within the DoD at no cost.

For more information, call 637-2460/3717 or visit our Web site at [www.drms.dla.mil](http://www.drms.dla.mil).

**TO SUBMIT A BRIEF**, send an e-mail to [okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil](mailto:okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil), or fax your request to 645-3803. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Friday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.



The Camp Foster New Parent Support Program provided an Ages and Stages brief quarterly to Marines and sailors. Ages and Stages is an informational brief designed to help parents or expecting parents better understand and encourage their child's physical, social, emotional and intellectual development within the first five years. Photos by Lance Cpl. Heather N. Choate

# Ages and Stages to be quarterly

**Lance Cpl. Heather N. Choate**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — Marines with Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Family Readiness Officer and personnel with the Camp Foster New Parent Support Program gathered at the base chapel where an Ages and Stages seminar was held on Sept. 28

Ages and Stages is an informational brief provided by the New Parent Support Program to help parents or expecting parents better understand and encourage their child's physical, social, emotional and intellectual development



Topics covered at Ages and Stages briefs will be developmental milestones, nutrition, hygiene, safety, potty training and discipline.

within the first five years, said Nicole Morrill, program manager at the Camp Foster New Parent Support Program.

MAG-36 leaders say they requested to have the class taught to their Marines because they find it important to keep them well informed about their families.

"With the future of our nation being our children, we need to be prepared and know how to keep them safe," said Col. Mike Brassaw, commanding officer of MAG-36.

The class went over a variety of topics to help parents better understand their children between the ages of 6 months to 5 years old.

Potty training, discipline, nutrition and developmental milestones were some key points the teachers touched on during the class. Parents were given the chance to ask questions and open discussion followed.

The class is designed to give parents an over view of things they can expect to happen as well as giving helpful tips.

"I would definitely recommend parents, especially new parents, to attend classes like Ages and Stages," said Cpl. Sean Hoskins, a father and aviation supply specialist with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36, MAG-36. "They can learn a lot of information about their newborn as well as programs that they can utilize."

Morrill says that after the class was requested by MAG-36, NPSP decided they will now offer the four-hour class quarterly on Camp Foster.

The demand and turn out of the first few classes will determine whether or not the class will be hosted at the other Marine Corps installations on island, she said.

"If parents are interested in a more in depth class or have missed a set class, they can call the NPSP and set up a home visit," said Morrill. "A staffed nurse and I will come out to the individuals home to help walk them through any questions or processes they may be unclear on."

New Parent Support Program will accommodate any command request, said Morrill.

For more information contact the Camp Foster New Parent Support Group at 645-0396.



# Friendship Festival held on Camp Fuji

**Cpl. Thiara Espinosamejia**

CAMP FUJI STAFF

CAMP FUJI, Japan — Camp Fuji hosted its annual Friendship Festival Sunday.

Approximately 7,000 visitors from surrounding communities attended the festival as well as Marines and civilian personnel from the Combined Arms Training Center, Camp Fuji.

The festival is a one-day, early-autumn event featuring cultural performances, military

equipment displays and sporting activities.

Other activities included martial arts, entertainers and performers, international foods, adult and children activities, sports, music, car and motorcycle show, stunt riding competition and an afternoon concert followed by an after-party in the clubs for Marines and their guests.

"The event was a great success," said Col. Craig S. Kozenisky, commanding officer of CATC.

Camp Fuji, located on the island of Honshu in central Japan, is nestled at the base of Mount Fuji, about 2,250 feet above sea level. The camp is only 96 km from Japan's capitol, Tokyo, a city of 12 million.

Camp Fuji was turned over to the Marine Corps from the U.S. Army in 1953. The Camp's mission is to provide garrison facilities, administrative, communications, and logistical support to U.S. Forces that deploy there for training.



Visitors from surrounding communities, as well as Marines and civilian personnel from the Combined Arms Training Center, Camp Fuji, Japan, enjoy the festivities at the Camp's Annual Friendship Festival Sunday.

Photo by Cpl. Thiara Espinosamejia

## VACCINE FROM PG 1

Unlike last year, most adults should only need a single flu shot to be protected for this influenza season. Each year, the seasonal influenza vaccine contains three influenza viruses — one influenza A (H3N2) virus, one regular seasonal influenza A (H1N1) virus and one influenza B virus. The influenza viruses in the seasonal flu vaccine are selected each year based on surveillance-based forecasts about what viruses are most likely to cause illness in the coming season. Therefore, each year's seasonal flu vaccine is designed to protect against the seasonal influenza viruses expected to cause disease during that influenza season.

Active duty personnel should check with their chain of command for where to obtain a flu shot. The vaccination is mandatory for all military personnel unless medically waived.

It is everyone's responsibility to protect themselves and others by getting the vaccination.

"The main way that influenza viruses are spread through the community is from person to person through respiratory droplets of coughs and sneezes," said Navy Lt. Carl Blaesing, head of Preventive Medicine at the hospital.

For more information regarding 2010 seasonal flu immunizations on Okinawa or appointments, contact:

- U.S. Naval Hospital immunizations clinic: 643-7441
- 18th Medical Group (Kadena Clinic): 630-4415
- Bush Family Medicine Clinic (Camp Courtney): 622-7632/7633
- Kinser Family Medicine Clinic: 637-4995

For information regarding the Seasonal 2010-2011 Flu Immunization Program, go to [www.vaccines.mil](http://www.vaccines.mil) or [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

## CERTEX FROM PG 1

The purpose of the exercise was to ensure the MEU is trained and certified in core competencies, according to Maj. Donn Puca, support branch officer-in-charge for SOTG and co-planner of the event.

A simulated typhoon slammed into the country causing major technological and environmental damage.

In the wake of the disaster, roads, communication and order were disrupted, obstructing relief efforts and leaving victims without food, medical care and shelter.

"This is one of the first times we've been able to recreate a scenario using our full capabilities," Puca said, of the presence of actual U.S. Embassy and disaster relief workers, and more than 70 Marine role-players. "The reality of this exercise will help us become even more prepared for possible future responses."

More than 100 Marines from 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force, participated in the exercise.

Marines practiced responses to a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief event, tactical recoveries of airplanes and personnel and non-combatant evacuation operations while responding to various situations presented throughout the exercise.

All participants gained valuable experience in working together and translating the operating procedures of different groups, said Caroline Schneider, a Department of State employee who role-played as the U.S. Embassy's public affairs officer for the duration of the exercise.

Meshing the Marines, non-government organization role-players, embassy employees and USAID representatives in various meetings and scenarios was extremely productive in providing hands-on experience for the group, Schneider said.

"Each (non-government) organization here has their own culture and way of doing things, but we have a common goal when it comes to crisis management," Schneider said. "It's important for us to practice and take advantage of our different assets so when we are assisting another country, we provide unified relief efforts."

Puca said he hopes the participating Marines would walk away from the training with a familiarity for the dynamic of working with federal and civilian agencies to accomplish a common goal.

For more information on the 31st MEU, visit [www.marines.mil/unit/31stmeu/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.marines.mil/unit/31stmeu/Pages/default.aspx).




Ben Hemingway, left, a regional advisor with the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, helps a Marine from 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force, identify and organize humanitarian assistance supplies during the unit's biannual certification exercise Sept. 29.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland



# Intel Marines fire away in preparati

A Marine from 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, fire M-9 pistols at night as part of their weapons training in preparation for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan on Camp Hansen Sept. 29.



Marines from 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, engage targets at night with the M-4 carbine, night vision goggles and PEQ-15 laser sights during weapons training on Camp Hansen Sept. 29 in preparation for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.



# on for Operation Enduring Freedom

Story and photos by Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**M**arines from 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, send rounds down range on Camp Hansen Sept. 27-30 in preparation for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

"The purpose of this training is to help us be more technically and tactically proficient with crew-served and individual weapons so that once we are in country we can accomplish the mission more efficiently," said an officer with 3rd Intel. Bn.

The third day of training consisted of 22 Marines using M4 carbines and M9 pistols with night vision goggles and PEQ-15 laser sights to engage targets during the Table 3 course of fire at night. The course of fire simulates real-life

situations a Marine might encounter in combat and involves movement to contact drills with Marines firing at targets while moving, going from the standing to kneeling position and pivoting 90 degrees to face targets.

The Marines honed their marksmanship skills conducting hammered pairs, controlled pairs and failure to stop drills, from 25 to 7 meters. The drills consist of consecutive or separate shots to the chest or head of targets. The Marines also practiced transition firing, which involve switching from the rifle to pistol while shooting.

"We're going to be patrolling at night in country with a chance that we might encounter enemy forces, so it's good to familiarize ourselves with night firing," said a staff noncommissioned officer with 3rd Intel. Bn.

The Marines' fourth day of weapons training consisted of firing two machine guns, the M249 squad automatic weapon and the

M240G medium machine gun.

"The most important thing for them to take from this training is be comfortable with the weapons so they can see how easy the weapons are operated when used properly," said Staff Sgt. Leo A. Hunnicutt, a weapons and tactics instructor with Tactics and Readiness Training, Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III MEF.

Marines practiced adjusting their sites to targets of various ranges while firing both of the weapons and changing position from standing and kneeling during the shoot with the SAW's.

Overall, the training went very well with no safety or weapons issues, according to Hunnicutt.

"They did an outstanding job and made the most of the training," he added. "Most of these guys are very well experienced so nothing less could be expected."

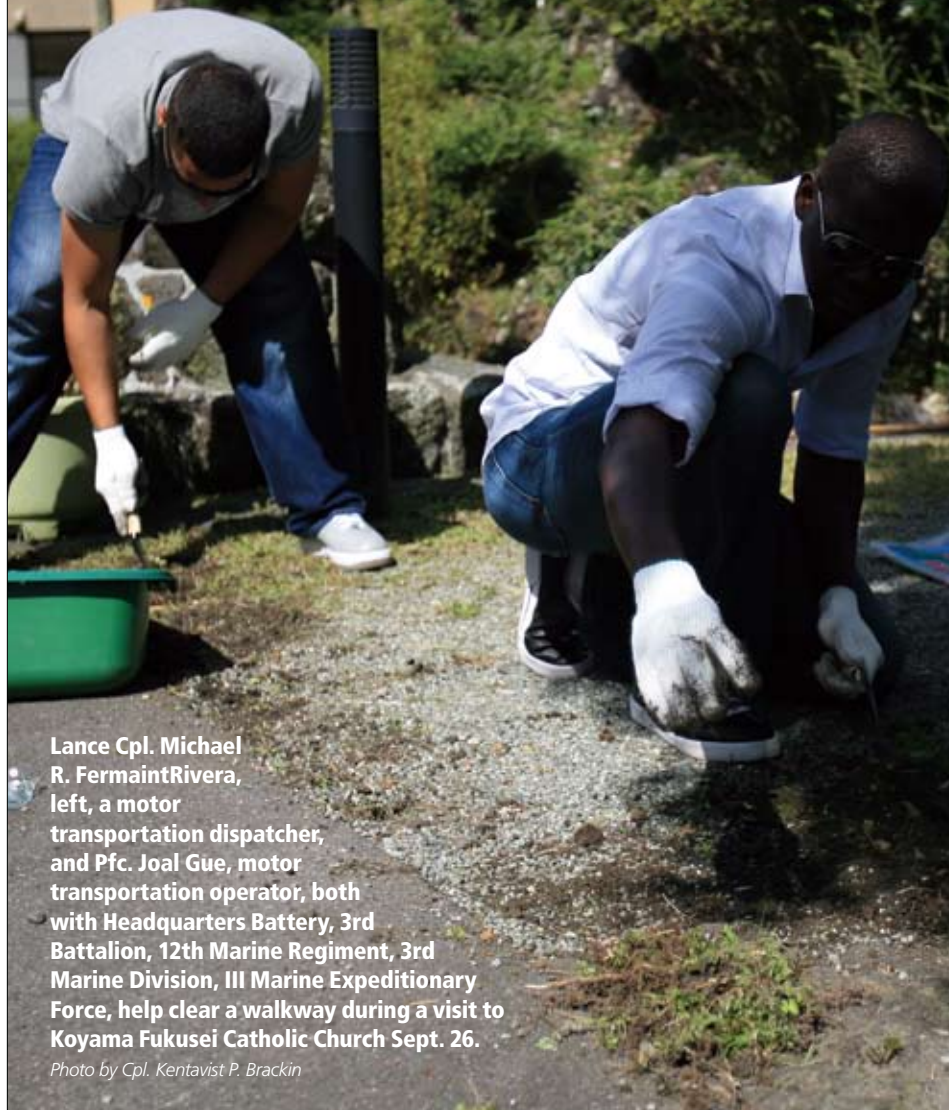


Marines from 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, use the fundamentals of a firm pistol grip to accurately shoot targets during weapons training in preparation for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan on Camp Hansen Sept. 29.



# 12th Marines helps clean up local church

**Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF



**Lance Cpl. Michael R. FermaintRivera, left, a motor transportation dispatcher, and Pfc. Joal Gue, motor transportation operator, both with Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, help clear a walkway during a visit to Koyama Fukusei Catholic Church Sept. 26.**

*Photo by Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin*

**M**arines and sailors from 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, helped beautify the Koyama Fukusei Catholic Church in Gotenba City, Japan, Sept. 26. The Marines were in the area after completing an Artillery Relocation Training Program Exercise at a training area near Camp Fuji.

"This is the first time (3rd Battalion, 12th Marines), have visited this (church)," said Lt. Cmdr. Dennis M. Wheeler, the 12th Marines chaplain. "We wanted to get the Marines into the local community to provide aid (and) get them to see a different side of life here."

At the church, the 22 Marines and sailors cleared away weeds and shrubs near the roadside, walkways and flowerbeds.

"These projects provide opportunities for our Marines to be gracious guests and learn about the traditions and culture of Japan, while at the same time allowing our hosts to learn about the United States and her Marines," said Lt. Col. Ricardo Miagany, the 3rd Bn., 12th Marines battalion commander. "In the end, we hope to build friendship with the people in the Fuji area."

Tokio Fujiwara, a patient at the church with leprosy, also spoke to the visiting Marines and sailors.

"Some people look down on us because we're sick," said Fujiwara.

The Marines and sailors asked Fujiwara how he dealt with the illness and thanked him for speaking with them.

"It was a very moving experience, because it's not every day that we actually get to meet and talk to people like (Fujiwara)," said Pfc. Joal Gue, a motor transportation operator with Headquarters Battery, 12th Marines. "He spent 65 years of his life in a hospital without seeing his family. That makes me want to go out and experience new things."

"The Marines' performance was awesome. I was really proud of the way the Marines paid attention to the patient and how they seemed to be touched by his story," said Wheeler. "I hope they will be able to return to this place in the future and have just as big an impact."

## Combat engineer improves remote bases in Afghanistan

**Lance Cpl. Kenneth Jasik**  
1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP (FWD)

**F**emale Marines represent just 6 percent of the entire Marine Corps, and for one combat engineer that small ratio is a large reality.

Lance Cpl. Kimberly R. Burrows, from 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, currently attached to 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), I MEF, is currently at Forward Operating Base Zeebrugge, near the Kajaki Dam in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

Burrows, who joined the Marine Corps in April 2007, is not at all bothered by this fact. She said she is just glad to have the chance to help with the current mission; improving one of the most remote Marine FOB's in Afghanistan.

"It's nice to do things for people who need it and will appreciate it," said Burrows. "These (India) Battery Marines need the work to be done for both their safety and comfort, and I'm glad to be helping out with that."

Engineers from 9th ESB arrived at FOB Zeebrugge March 2, tasked to enhance security and improve living conditions for the Marines of India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 2, 1st MarDiv. (Fwd.), who currently own that battlespace.

According to Burrow's leadership, she's a valuable asset to the engineer team conducting the mission.

"She has a good work ethic," said Sgt. Martin D. Allen, a combat engineer from 9th ESB, who currently leads the projects on FOB Zeebrugge. "Burrows is very knowledgeable, and she has great initiative. She keeps busy, and she keeps great accountability of the tools.

"It isn't just her ability to stay focused and work hard that shines



**Lance Cpl. Kimberly R. Burrows, a combat engineer with Company A, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, currently attached to 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), I MEF, moves a two-by-four while working on improvements for Forward Operating Base Zeebrugge in Afghanistan Sept. 12.** *Photo by Lance Cpl. Kenneth Jasik*

through; her personality makes an impression as well.

"Burrows gets along well with everyone else," Allen added. "She fits in well, and she is a great addition to our team."

As for being the only female around, Burrows looks at it quite simply: "You've got males and females, but we are all Marines, and we have a job to do. It's about giving these Marines a safe place to sleep."



# MEU Marines rehearse evacuation

**Lance Cpl. Tyler C. Vernaza**  
31ST MEU

Marines with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force, conducted a simulated non-combatant evacuation operation at White Beach Naval Facility, Oct. 1 to prepare for possible real-world contingency operations.

At White Beach, Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, Combat Service Support Element, 31st MEU, and Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 31st MEU, set up processing points to remove American citizens, eligible local nationals and other designated individuals from a simulated-devastated area. The exercise situation was a post-typhoon disaster.

"In cases of disaster and

civil unrest, it might become dangerous for people to stay in an area," said said Chief Warrant Officer Edward Polzin, an evacuation control center chief with the 31st MEU. "That is why we practice evacuation."

At the evacuation area, Marines controlled an assembly point where the civilians were briefed before being processed. Civilians were told what was happening and how they should cooperate. As the role players went through the assembly area, they and their baggage were searched by field military police with CLB-31.

"It's important that we are thorough in our search to make sure they aren't getting through with knives, drugs, explosives and other things that could harm us or other civilians waiting to be evacuated,"

said Lance Cpl. Tanner Beckner, field military policeman with CLB-31.

The civilians showed the Marines their identification and passports and were asked about their background. During the screening process, role players had character scenarios that included nationality, family history and previous places of employment. After being cleared, civilians waited to be transported to the USS Essex (LHD2) via Navy landing craft.

During the evacuation at White Beach, two additional evacuation points were conducted by other elements of the 31st MEU on Camps Courtney and Hansen.

The 31st MEU is the only MEU continually forward deployed and always ready to respond to a crisis in the Asia-Pacific region.



Lance Cpl. Tanner Beckner, a field military policeman with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, searches a role player during non-combatant evacuation operation training held in conjunction with the 31st MEU's Certification Exercise Oct. 1. Photo by Lance Cpl. Tyler C. Vernaza



Cpl. Ryan Jones a military working dog handler, Military Police Support Company, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, demonstrates to children from E.C. Killin Elementary School on Camp Foster how his military working dog, Zac, sniffs for drugs during a field trip to Camp Hansen Sept. 29.

Photo by Lance Cpl. J Nava

## Marines DARE to help keep Okinawa youth off drugs

**Lance Cpl. J Nava**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Founded in 1983, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program or DARE, has since strived to prevent the use of controlled drugs, membership in gangs, and violent behavior among school-aged children.

Students who participate in the program pledge not to use drugs or join gangs and are taught by law enforcement officials the dangers of drug use and violence.

Military police aboard Camp Hansen helped drive that message home for school children from Camp Foster's E.C. Killin Elementary School, when the children spent the day interacting and learning from the Marines at Camp Hansen, Sept. 29.

"We introduce the children to the program

to show them the purpose for following the right path," said Tim McCarty, fifth grade teacher, E.C. Killin Elementary School. "We also discuss with them the punishments that come with not following the rules."

The children traveled to the Camp Hansen Brig, where they toured the cells and were introduced for the first time to a prison complex.

"They teach us this so that we do the right thing and don't go to jail one day," said Casey McCarty, E.C. Killin Elementary student.

The children also visited the Marines at MP Support Company, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, to learn about how military police work with military working dogs to uphold order.

"This is an awesome program. It shows kids the good and bad sides of everything and how to stay on the right side of the law," said Gun-

nery Sgt. Nester Antoine, chief trainer, MP Support Co. "I'm a father myself, so I always like coming out here to interact with the kids."

The Marines demonstrated the dogs' drug-finding capabilities and aggressive abilities used to subdue would be attackers.

"With this program, the children learn first hand and see first hand, rather than just being told what's wrong and right from a book or video," Tim McCarty said.

The children and the Marines enjoyed working and learning from each other, said Marines.

"When we see their smiles and see them asking questions, it really makes me feel like we accomplished something here today," Antoine said.

"I had so much fun today; it was great," Casey McCarty said.



# Columbus Day extended weekend things to do:

Open Bench Press Tournament  
- Oct. 9 at 10 a.m.  
- Marine Corps Air Station Futenma  
Semper Fit Basketball Courts  
636-2676

Photo by Lance Cpl. Heather N. Choate

Open Softball Tournament  
- Oct. 8-10  
- Schwab Softball Field 1  
625-2654

Open Kickball  
Tournament  
- Oct. 9-10  
- Camp Hansen  
Softball Fields 1&2  
623-5558

Urashima Dinner Theater  
- Oct. 8 at 5:30-9:30 p.m.  
- Savor the different flavors of Okinawan  
cuisine while enjoying entertainment that  
includes traditional music and dancers.  
The fee covers dinner and a show.  
- Call MCCS Tours + for more information

Camp Foster 646-3502  
Camp Hansen 623-6344  
Camp Kinser 637-2744

Lifelong Learning Ghost Hunting  
- Oct. 12 at the Camp Foster  
Library  
645-6453

Rocktober Fest  
- Oct. 9-10 from 4-11 p.m.  
- Torii Beach  
- For more information e-mail  
info@rocktoberfest-japan.com

Jazz Concert  
- Oct. 9 at 5-7:30 p.m.  
- Yuinchi Hotel, Nanjo City

Naha Festival  
- Oct. 9-10  
- Ohnoyama  
Park (near the  
Tug-of-War)

Naha Tug-of-War  
- Oct. 10, all afternoon  
- Highway 58 in Naha  
- MCCS Tours + is providing transportation  
- For more information call MCCS Tours +

Camp Foster 646-3502  
Camp Hansen 623-6344  
Camp Kinser 637-2744

Battle Sites Tour  
- Oct. 9 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
- Relive the Battle of Okinawa with a  
history lesson. Visit the Battle of Okinawa  
Historical Collection on Camp Kinser.  
Explore the Japanese Naval Underground  
Headquarters and conclude the tour at  
Peace Prayer Park.  
- For more information call MCCS Tours +

Camp Foster 646-3502  
Camp Hansen 623-6344  
Camp Kinser 637-2744

Domestic Violence Awareness  
Month Couples Date Night  
- Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

- Camp Foster Theater  
- Movie: 'Date Night'  
645-0397

Naha Peace and Art  
Jazz Festival  
- Oct. 11 at 1 p.m.  
- Naha City Hall, Naha

Photo by Lance Cpl. Terence L. Yancey



# In Theaters Now

**OCT. 8 - OCT. 14**

## FOSTER

**TODAY** Legends of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG), 6 p.m.; The Town (R), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Ramona and Beezus (G), noon; Step Up 3D (PG13), 3 p.m.; Resident Evil: Afterlife (R), 6 p.m.; The Town (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG), 1 p.m.; The Social Network (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Town (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG), 1 p.m.; Resident Evil: Afterlife (R), 4 p.m.; \*\*Special Engagement Movie for D.V. \*\* Date Night (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Predators (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** The Social Network (PG13), 7 p.m.

## SCHWAB

**TODAY** The Town (R), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Dinner for Schmucks (PG13), 5 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Charlie St. Cloud (PG13), 5 p.m.  
**MONDAY-THURSDAY** Closed

## COURTNEY

**TODAY** The Social Network (PG13), 5:30 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (PG), 2 p.m.; Charlie St. Cloud (PG13), 6 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (PG), 2 p.m.; The Town (R), 9 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Dinner for Schmucks (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (PG), 2 p.m.; Charlie St. Cloud (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## HANSEN

**TODAY** Step Up 3D (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Other Guys (PG13), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Town (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Other Guys (PG13), 2 p.m.; Step Up 3D (PG13), 5:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Social Network (PG13), 2 and 5:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** The Social Network (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Other Guys (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Step Up 3D (PG13), 7 p.m.

## KINSER

**TODAY** The Other Guys (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Step Up 3D (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Other Guys (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Scott Pilgrims Vs. The World (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** The Social Network (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Step Up 3D (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

## KADENA

**TODAY** Step Up 3D (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Legends of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG), noon, 3 and 6 p.m.; Step Up 3D (PG13), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Legends of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG), 6 p.m.; (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; The Other Guys (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Legends of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG), 3 and 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** The Town (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Town (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** The Town (R), 7 p.m.

## FUTENMA

**TODAY** Charlie St. Cloud (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Social Network (PG13), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Cats & Dogs: Revenge of Kitty Galore (PG), 4 p.m.; Dinner for Schmucks (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Town (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Closed  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## THEATER DIRECTORY

**CAMP FOSTER** 645-3465  
**KADENA AIR BASE** 634-1869  
**(USO NIGHT)** 632-8781  
**MCAS FUTENMA** 636-3890  
**(USO NIGHT)** 636-2113  
**CAMP COURTNEY** 622-9616  
**CAMP HANSEN** 623-4564  
**(USO NIGHT)** 623-5011  
**CAMP KINSER** 637-2177  
**CAMP SCHWAB** 625-2333  
**(USO NIGHT)** 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com).



## SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information, or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

**All bus pick-up points will be at Semper Fit gyms or the Foster Fieldhouse.**

### OKINAWA WORLD (SOUTHERN CAMPS): OCT. 17

• If looking for a fun day-long adventure then consider Okinawa World. With a total length of 3.2 miles, Gyokusendo Cave is the longest of the many caves in the south of Okinawa and Japan's second longest. Featuring spectacular stalactites and stalagmites, 2,789 feet of the cave is open to the public. Sign up deadline is Oct. 14. Bus will leave MCAS Futenma at 11 a.m. and Camp Kinser at 11:20 a.m.

### PAINTBALL TRIP: OCT. 23

• Bus will leave Camp Kinser at 9:55 a.m., MCAS Futenma at 10:30 a.m. and Camp Foster at 10:50 a.m. Sign up deadline is Oct. 14.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Oct. 9:** Volunteer with the Marine Corps Family Team Building for the Amazing Race for Teens from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Camp Foster.
- **Oct. 9:** Volunteer with the Marine Thrift Shop for the Amazing Race for Teens, Customers and Volunteers Appreciation Day from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Camp Foster Thrift Shop.
- **Oct. 28:** Volunteer for Headquarters and Service Battalion Family Fun Day from 5:30-10:30 p.m. at Field 5A on Camp Foster next to Gunner's Gym.

Mention of any company in this notice does not constitute endorsement by the Marine Corps.

## CHAPEL SCHEDULE

### CAMP FOSTER | 645-7486

- **Catholic:** Mon-Fri, 11:45 a.m.; Sat, 5 p.m.; Sun, 10 a.m.
- **Christian Science:** Sun, 11 a.m., Bldg. 442
- **Eastern Orthodox:** Divine Liturgy, Sun, 9:30 a.m.; Vespers, Sat, 5 p.m.
- **Gospel:** Sun, 11:30 a.m.; 2nd, 3rd Sun, Children's Church, 11 a.m.
- **Jewish:** Informal: 1st, 3rd Fri, 6:30 p.m.
- **Latter Day Saints:** Mon, 6:30 p.m.
- **Lutheran:** Sun, 5 p.m.
- **Muslim:** Fri, Prayer, 12:45 p.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun, 8:30 a.m.
- **Seventh Day Adventist:** Sat, 9:30 a.m., Torii Station 644-5701/644-4281

### CAMP SCHWAB | 622-9350

- **Catholic:** Sun, 5:30 p.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun, 4 p.m.

### CAMP KINSER | 637-1148

- **Catholic:** Sun, noon
- **Protestant:** Sun, 9 a.m.

### CAMP HANSEN | 622-9350

- **Catholic:** Sun, 10 a.m., E. Chapel
- **Protestant:** Sun, 12:30 p.m., E. Chapel
- **Latter Day Saints:** Wed, 6:30 p.m., Library

### CAMP LESTER | 643-7248

- **Catholic:** Sun, 8 a.m.
- **Non-Denominational:** Sun, 9 a.m., Hospital Chapel; Sun, 10 a.m., Lester Chapel

### CAMP McTUREOUS | 622-9350

- **Gospel:** Sun, 12:30 p.m.

### CAMP COURTNEY | 622-9350

- **Catholic:** Sun, 8 a.m., Mass, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 11:30 a.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun, 10:45 a.m.

### KADENA AIR BASE | 634-1288

[WWW.KADENACHAPEL.ORG](http://WWW.KADENACHAPEL.ORG)

- **Catholic:** Sun, 8:30 a.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun, 11:45 a.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun, 4 p.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Daily Mass, Mon.-Fri., noon, Chapel 1
- **Contemporary:** Sun, 10 a.m., Chapel 1
- **Gospel:** Sun, 10:30 a.m., Chapel 3
- **Traditional:** Sun, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 2
- **Wiccan/Pagan:** Sat, 2 p.m., Bldg. 856

### MCAS FUTENMA | 636-3058

- **Catholic:** Sun, noon
- **Contemporary:** Fri, 7 p.m.; Sun, 9 a.m.

## Japanese phrase of the week:

"Otsukare Sama" (pronounced O-tsu-ka-re sa-ma)

- It means a casual "hello" or "what's up"
  - It is a convenient phrase with no serious meaning
- You can say it to people at work or in passing.

**IN CASE OF  
EMERGENCY  
OFF BASE  
DIAL  
098-911-1911  
OR PMO  
098-970-7441**

**HELP**







Eric Thompson punches a heavy bag at the Camp Foster Field House Tuesday. Thompson is the head coach for the boxing class and keeps himself physically fit by training on his own.

# KNOCKOUT FITNESS

## Ringside classes available on Camp Foster

Story and photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Michael G. Iams**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**T**here's a class at the Camp Foster Field House that pushes the limits of physical training.

The class is boxing, a sport of strength, endurance and agility.

Eric Thompson, 31, who has been boxing for 18 years, hosts a boxing class every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Camp Foster Field House from 6 - 8 p.m.

To participate in the class, participants must bring safety gear.

"Hand wraps and mouth piece (are) the minimum gear required," said Thompson. "When they show for the class, I ask if they are serious about the training, and if they say 'Yes,' then I highly recommend that they go to dental to get a form-fitted mouth piece made."

The class teaches the basic fundamentals of boxing. These

fundamentals include the proper stance and footwork for stability and easy movement around an opponent.

Participants also learn the basic punches and defense – essentials for surviving in the ring.

"Because fighters show up at different times, I have them come in and stretch out on their own. They start off with three rounds of three minutes on the rope, three rounds of three minutes of shadowboxing, and then, we begin with whatever the workout planned for that day will be," said Thompson.

To keep physically fit for boxing, instructors use conditioning exercises such as jump rope and hitting the speed bag and heavy bag. Cardio workouts such as these condition the body to help improve breathing and lung capacity – necessities to last longer in the ring.

The class is open to all who have base access regardless of experience level, and want to learn the sport or just get physi-



Eric Thompson knocks out a few sit-ups at the Camp Foster Field House Tuesday. The sit-ups condition and harden his body to withstand blows given by an opponent.

cally fit. Instructors ask participants to keep improving themselves and give all they have to the class and in the ring.

Thompson, along with his assistant instructor Thomas W. Jensen, 37, who has been boxing for 20 years, started teaching be-

cause of their love of the sport.

"I have been boxing my whole life," said Jensen. "I feel like I need to volunteer my time and pass on what I know to others."

Those interested in the class call Semper Fit at 645-3522 for more information.